

**Private Admonition -- Board Case No. 42, 1995. Date of Sanction: February 28, 1996.** Accepting a conditional admission proposed by the respondent lawyer and the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, a panel of the Board on Professional Responsibility imposed the sanction of a private admonition on the attorney for violating **DLRPC 3.5(c)**, which states that a lawyer shall not engage in undignified or uncourteous conduct which is degrading to a tribunal.

The violation occurred after a Family Court Master issued an order denying the lawyer's request for a continuance due to nonconformity with Family Court Rule 40. The order also noted that the lawyer's failure to file a joint asset report as required by Family Court Rule 16 suggested a pattern of disregard for the court's rules. In a subsequent letter to the Master, the lawyer characterized the Master's comment about non-compliance with the court's rules as "cheap, supercilious and uninformed." In approving the sanction, the Board considered, among other things, that the lawyer later apologized for the offending letter.